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18 December 1961

STAFF MEMORANDUM No. 17

Mr. McCone desires that at least two other subjects be included in our report on the Assessment of Scientific and Technical Intelligence (Recommendation No. 15, President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board). They are:

a. The National Reconnaissance Organization (NRO). This is a classified defense element controlled jointly by DD/P, CIA and Under Secretary Charyk of the Department of the Air Force. At least KN security clearance is needed for discussion regarding this organization.

b. The extent to which the intelligence community is using elements outside the government for analysis purposes, such as [] and others. The DCI seems interested in how better use could be made of outside elements and mentioned the vast amounts of general information available to them; the "thin layer" of classified information they are now using; and the possibility of getting a greater return from them for the government with less need for large permanent analysis staffs within the government.

I gained the impression that these two subjects are receiving the attention of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

Mr. McCone agreed that our study should continue and be presented when the reduced membership of the USIB is in being. Mr. Kirkpatrick will undertake to arrange for the extension of time beyond the present deadline of 31 December.

Action: [] and Coordination Staff Working Group.

cc: Mr. Kirkpatrick

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